



Homeland  
Security

# Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

## 13 April 2012

### Top Stories

- The financial services industry saw nearly triple the number of distributed denial-of-service attacks during the first 3 months of 2012 compared to the same period in 2011, a new report found. – *IDG News Service* (See item [19](#))
- A multistate outbreak of Salmonella Bareilly expanded to include at least 116 victims across 20 states, according to new data. – *Food Safety News* (See item [28](#))
- The Food and Drug Administration called on drug companies to help limit the use of antibiotics in farm animals, a decades-old practice scientists say contributed to a surge in dangerous, drug-resistant bacteria. – *Associated Press* (See item [39](#))
- A fire atop English Mountain, in Sevierville, Tennessee, that destroyed four dozen condominiums was being fought with a helicopter ferrying loads of water. – *Knoxville News Sentinel* (See item [57](#))

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) -

<http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 12, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Kentucky) **LG&E to pay \$22,500 for coal ash drifting from Cane Run plant.** Louisville Gas and Electric Co. (LG&E) agreed to pay \$22,500 to settle a simmering dispute over coal ash blowing from its Cane Run power plant, the Louisville Courier-Journal reported April 12. Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District officials originally sought as much as \$30,000 in penalties, but a district spokesman said officials agreed to a lower fine after LG&E said it would take steps to control the ash. A spokesman said the firm already took action to reduce blowing ash and dust, including more frequent watering, reducing traffic on company roads, and adding more cover soil and grass to an ash and scrubber waste dump piling up for decades on the eastern bank of the Ohio River. LG&E will pay \$19,500 in fines and \$3,000 to a district clean-air fund. The spokesman said the firm also agreed to hourly visibility surveys and prompt responses to curtail ash releases into the air. By the end of April, LG&E must propose a plan for dust suppression for open areas of the ash dump.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20120411/BUSINESS/304110064/LG-E-pay-22-500-coal-ash-drifting-from-Cane-Run-plant?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Home|s>

2. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Coast Guard checks Shell report of Gulf oil slick.** The U.S. Coast Guard was checking reports April 12 of a 10-mile oil sheen in the Gulf of Mexico near wells operated by Shell Oil. A helicopter with a pollution officer on board was sent to determine the source of the oil, a Coast Guard Petty Officer in New Orleans said. Royal Dutch Shell reported a “light sheen” of oil about 1 mile long and 10 miles wide in the general area of two of its production platforms in the oil and gas prospects called Mars and Ursa. The company said the source of the sheen is unknown but it had no indication the sheen originated from its wells, about 130 miles southeast of New Orleans.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/04/12/coast-guard-checks-shell-report-gulf-oil-slick/>

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## Chemical Industry Sector

3. *April 12, Beaumont Enterprise* – (Texas) **TCEQ fines Port Arthur chemical plant.** State environmental regulators fined a Port Arthur, Texas chemical plant \$46,450 because incorrect drain and valve settings, an incorrectly routed line, and an improperly repaired pump caused 2 incidents resulting in more than 110 total hours of air pollution. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) April 11 approved penalties that totaled \$240,228 against 25 regulated entities — two in Southeast Texas — for violations of state environmental regulations. Drain, valve, and

vapor line issues at Flint Hill Resources in Port Arthur April 26, 2011, led to the release of 4,875.5 pounds of volatile organic compounds over 30 hours, according to the TCEQ's executive summary. It said May 23, 2011 an improperly repaired pump failed, leading to fire that resulted in the 80-hour long release of 15,590.25 pounds of volatile organic compounds. The TCEQ also fined ONEOK Hydrocarbon Southwest \$9,650 for the release of about 8,800 pounds of volatile organic compounds at its Mount Belvieu Fractionator.

Source: <http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/TCEQ-fines-Port-Arthur-chemical-plant-3475228.php>

4. *April 12, Albany Times Union* – (New York) **10M to clean PCBs from Dewey Loeffel dump.** General Electric Co. and chemical company SI Group will pay up to \$10 million to clean toxic polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) leaking for decades from the Dewey Loeffel landfill in Rensselaer County, New York, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced April 11. The agreement was hailed by local officials and grassroots groups that have pushed to clean a dump that has leaked since the 1950s and tainted water in Rensselaer and Columbia counties. The companies agreed to build and run a chemical treatment plant to remove PCBs and other chemicals from a spreading underground plume. They will also take over EPA's job of running an inadequate state-built system that removes chemicals from the plume for treatment elsewhere until the new facility is running. An EPA regional administrator said the agency determined treating contaminated groundwater and liquid at the site is an effective way to protect drinking water wells. She said GE and SI Group, the former Schenectady International based in Niskayuna, also agreed to reimburse EPA for about \$800,000 in costs since the agency took responsibility for the dump from the state a year ago. An EPA spokeswoman said GE and SI could spend up to \$10 million for the new plant, the expense of running the existing groundwater system, and reimbursement. She said the new treatment plant could be ready by winter. Located about 4 miles northeast of the village of Nassau, the 16-acre unlined dump contains about 46,000 pounds of PCBs, solvents and other toxic chemicals illegally dumped from GE, the former Schenectady International and Bendix from 1952 to 1970, when the dump was closed by court order.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/business/article/10M-to-clean-PCBs-from-Dewey-Loeffel-dump-3474527.php>

5. *April 11, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Freeport residents to be tested for chemical exposure.** Hundreds of Freeport, Texas residents were told the state would like to test them for potentially dangerous metal exposure, KTRK 13 Houston reported April 11. Health officials want to find out whether people who live near Gulf Chemical were exposed to chemicals that can cause cancer. They went door-to-door April 11 passing out letters offering tests to determine if residents were exposed to cobalt, molybdenum, and nickel. The chemicals were found in the air and soil. Officials at Gulf Chemical and Metallurgical Corporation admit they produce the metals as a byproduct of their operation. A company executive said in 2010 the firm pleaded guilty to 11 felony charges related to violations of the Clean Water Act, paying a \$2.5 million fine. State health officials said the testing will occur May 3 to 6 at the Freeport Historical Museum. They said residents could pick up urine collection cups with sample

collection instructions at the clinic and can drop off their urine samples for testing.  
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8617171>

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector**

6. *April 12, Reuters* – (Mississippi) **Entergy Miss. Grand Gulf puts out fire in condenser.** Entergy Corp. extinguished a fire in the main condenser of its 1,251-megawatt Grand Gulf nuclear power plant near Port Gibson, Mississippi, April 11, the company told the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in a report posted April 12. The unit has been on a planned refueling outage since February 20. The operators at the plant declared an “unusual event,” the lowest of four emergency classifications by the NRC, after the fire was discovered. It was put out in about 40 minutes. The cause of the fire was being investigated, the company said.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/12/utilities-operations-entergy-grandgulf-idUSL2E8FC1XW20120412>
7. *April 12, Brattleboro Reformer* – (Vermont) **More repairs made to VY’s condenser.** Power output at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant near Brattleboro, Vermont, was reduced earlier the week of April 9 to allow for repairs to the plant’s steam condenser. April 11 the plant was running at 34 percent but on its way back up to full power, said the director of communications for Vermont Yankee. In the past few years, the condenser developed small leaks, in which water from the tubes leaked into the system. Holes in the condenser were sealed with Plasticor, an epoxy-like material, according to a member of the public oversight panel. The panel identified the condenser as a significant challenge to the continued reliability of the plant, partially as a result of the increased flow due to a power uprate in 2006.  
Source: [http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci\\_20377371/more-repairs-made-vy-s-condenser](http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_20377371/more-repairs-made-vy-s-condenser)
8. *April 11, Market Watch* – (Virginia) **NRC flags incident at Dominion nuclear plant.** Federal inspectors found shortcomings with equipment replacement at the Dominion’s North Anna nuclear power plant in Louisa County, Virginia, after an August 2011 earthquake forced it to shut down. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said April 11 it will discuss a violation of the plant’s technical specifications with Dominion officials April 20 before deciding how to proceed. Inspectors flagged the plant after finding a gasket failure prevented one of its emergency diesel generators from working properly. Workers replaced the gasket the same day, but the NRC said Dominion did not have adequate procedures for installing the part. It said the significance of the deficiency was “greater than green” on its color-coded safety scale. The NRC had not yet determined the event’s actual significance, however.  
Source: <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/nrc-flags-incident-at-dominion-nuclear-plant-2012-04-11>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

9. *April 12, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Georgia) **Georgia facility of Chicago-based LKQ Corp. cited by US Department of Labor’s OSHA for willful and serious violations following worker injury.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) April 12 cited Don Park USA L.P. for 16 safety and health violations based on a follow-up inspection of its Conley, Georgia facility. The OSHA found the same violations as during the original inspection, which was conducted after a fatality occurred at the facility in October 2010. Four repeat safety violations and one repeat health violation were cited, as well as four serious and one less-than-serious safety violations.  
Source:  
[http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=22152](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=22152)
10. *April 12, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - Buick Enclave, Chevrolet Traverse, and GMC Acadia windshield wiper linkages.** General Motors (GM), April 12 announced the recall of 50,001 model year 2011-2012 Chevrolet Traverse, Buick Enclave, and GMC Acadia vehicles currently registered in 28 states and the District of Columbia. If snow or ice buildup on the windshield or on the wiper restricts the movement of the wiper arm, the wiper arm may loosen and cause the wiper to become inoperative. If this occurs, driver visibility could be reduced, increasing the risk of a crash. GM will notify owners, and dealers will tighten the wiper arm nuts.  
Source: [http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl\\_ID=12V151000&summary=true&prod\\_id=971774&PrintVersion=YES](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl_ID=12V151000&summary=true&prod_id=971774&PrintVersion=YES)
11. *April 12, Seattle Weekly* – (Washington; International) **Anonymous hackers attack Boeing website to protest CISPA; Is Microsoft next?** Boeing’s Web site was the target of an attack staged by the hacking collective Anonymous, April 10, part of a widespread hacktivism campaign against companies and trade groups that support the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act (CISPA). The Twitter account @YourAnonNews posted April 10 announcing that Boeing.com was down as part of Anonymous’ “OpDefense” campaign. Boeing’s Web site was reportedly offline for about 3 hours, and still was not working properly as of early April 11. Anonymous also managed to take down the Web sites of TechAmerica and USTelecom, tech industry trade groups that have lobbied in favor of CISPA.  
Source:  
[http://blogs.seattleweekly.com/dailyweekly/2012/04/anonymous\\_hackers\\_attack\\_boeing.php](http://blogs.seattleweekly.com/dailyweekly/2012/04/anonymous_hackers_attack_boeing.php)
12. *April 11, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Ohio) **US Department of Labor’s OSHA cites Knowlton Manufacturing in Cincinnati after worker’s arm is amputated by mechanical power press.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) April 11 cited Knowlton Manufacturing Co. Inc. in Cincinnati with 10 safety violations -- including three willful and one repeat -- after an

employee's arm was amputated November 12, 2011, while the individual was performing maintenance on a mechanical power press that did not have its energy source properly secured. Additionally, six serious violations were also cited. Due to the willful and repeat violations and the nature of the hazards, the OSHA placed Knowlton Manufacturing in its Severe Violator Enforcement Program, which mandates targeted follow-up inspections to ensure compliance with the law.

Source:

[http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=22146](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=22146)

13. *April 11, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Fire at metal plant leaves coating of soot.** A fire April 11 at a metal manufacturing plant in the Black Rock section of Buffalo, New York, released soot into the air, leaving residue on vehicles and buildings in the area, according to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The blaze happened at Aurubis Buffalo, and the material released was soot, or inert carbon, the DEC said. The agency sent staff from its spills and air resources divisions to the scene to assess the situation. “No significant environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of the release,” the agency said in a statement. “Company officials have told DEC that they are working with community members to clean up the areas and vehicles affected by soot.” It could not immediately be determined when the fire occurred.

Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/city/communities/buffalo/article805970.ece>

For more stories, see items [38](#) and [63](#)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *April 12, Help Net Security* – (International) **HSBC customers under phishing attack.** Customers of HSBC, one of the largest banking and financial services organizations in the world, are being targeted with a fake warning of account suspension, Help Net Security reported April 12. The e-mail claims someone tried to access the user's account and failed, and that the bank suspended the account to protect the customer. Unfortunately, the offered link takes the victims to a phishing site made to look like the bank's legitimate Internet banking log-in page, where they are asked to input their user ID, name, date of birth, Social Security number, sort code, account number, and ATM PIN code to prove their identity. Once the information is submitted by pressing on the “Continue” button, it is immediately sent to the phishers and the victims are redirected to the bank's legitimate page.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=12739&utm>



15. *April 12, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois; International) **International crew busted looting Chicago ATMs with stolen info.** Two suspects were busted earlier the week of April 9 after Chase Bank tipped police to suspicious activity at ATMs in the Chicago area. Authorities say they suspect the men are part of a Romanian financial-crime cell — one of a few dozen such cells looting ATMs in Chicago and draining customers’ bank accounts with an elaborate rip-off system. First, the crews steal personal banking information from ATM customers by secretly attaching a “skimmer” to ATM machines. The crews also hide a camera near the ATM to catch the customer keying in a password. Using that data, the crews create duplicate debit cards and “cash-out” guys fan out to ATMs to withdraw the maximum amount allowed on each card. Some of the alleged “cash-out” guys got nabbed April 9, police said. The men, who are Romanian, were charged with felony identity fraud. So far, 16 victims have been identified and \$7,000 recovered from the men, prosecutors said. But sources said the theft total could reach \$50,000 based on cash recovered from a vehicle the men were riding in. Sources said Chicago police officers seized more than 200 gift cards converted to debit cards. Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/11845470-418/international-crew-busted-looting-chicago-atms-with-stolen-account-information.html>
16. *April 12, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority* – (National) **Goldman, Sachs & Co. fined \$22 million for supervisory failures relating to trading and equity research.** The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) announced April 12 that it has fined Goldman, Sachs & Co. \$22 million for failing to supervise equity research analyst communications with traders and clients and for failing to adequately monitor trading in advance of published research changes to detect and prevent possible information breaches by its research analysts. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) also announced a related settlement with Goldman. Pursuant to the settlements, Goldman will pay \$11 million each to FINRA and the SEC. In 2006, Goldman established a business process known as “trading huddles” to allow research analysts to meet on a weekly basis to share trading ideas with traders, who interfaced with clients, and, on occasion, equity salespersons. Analysts would also discuss specific securities during huddles while they were considering changing the published research rating or the conviction list status of the security. Clients were not restricted from participating directly in the trading huddles and had access to huddle data through research analysts’ calls to certain of the firm’s high priority clients. These calls included discussions of the analysts’ “most interesting and actionable ideas.” Trading huddles created the significant risk analysts would disclose material non-public information, including, among other things, previews of ratings changes or changes to conviction list status. Despite this risk, Goldman did not have adequate controls in place to monitor communications in trading huddles and by analysts after the huddles. Source: [http://www.finra.org/Newsroom/NewsReleases/2012/P125974?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed:+FINRANews+\(FINRA+News\)&utm\\_content=Google+Reader](http://www.finra.org/Newsroom/NewsReleases/2012/P125974?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+FINRANews+(FINRA+News)&utm_content=Google+Reader)
17. *April 12, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (National) **SEC charges Ponzi schemer targeting church congregations.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) charged a man April 12 with running a Ponzi scheme that targeted

socially-conscious investors in church congregations nationwide. The SEC alleges the man made numerous false statements to lure investors into two investment programs being offered through City Capital Corporation, where he was the chief executive officer (CEO). The SEC also charged City Capital and its former chief operating officer. According to the complaint, the man cultivated an image of a highly successful and socially conscious entrepreneur and promoted investments through live presentations, Internet advertisements, and radio ads. The SEC alleges the CEO and City Capital offered two primary investments: promissory notes supposedly funding various small firms, and interests in “sweepstakes” machines. In addition to promising high rates of return, he assured investors he had a long track record of success and that funds would be used to support businesses in economically disadvantaged areas. A portion of profits were to go to charity. According to the complaint, more than \$11 million the CEO and City Capital raised from hundreds of investors nationwide from 2008 to 2010 was instead used to operate a Ponzi scheme. Money was misused to pay other investors, finance personal expenses, and fund City Capital’s payroll, rent, and other costs. City Capital’s business ventures were unprofitable, and no meaningful amounts of investor money were ever sent to charities.

Source: <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-62.htm>

18. *April 12, Reuters* – (New York) **Novelty grenade prompts bomb scare near New York’s ‘Ground Zero’**. A novelty hand grenade briefly prompted the evacuation of one of the buildings near the site where New York City’s World Trade Center towers stood until they were brought down in the September 11th attacks, police said April 12. The evacuation of 2 World Financial Center in Manhattan was triggered around 11 a.m. after an X-ray of a package at the building appeared to reveal an explosive device inside, a New York City Police Department (NYPD) spokesman said. It was actually a novelty hand grenade on a plaque that read “complaint department, pull the pin” that had been sent to one of the tenants, Nomura Holdings, the NYPD spokesman said. Police have given the all-clear, allowing employees to return to the building, which houses a number of financial services firms.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/12/us-usa-newyork-wtc-idUSBRE83B11O20120412>

19. *April 11, IDG News Service* – (International) **DDoS attacks on financial services firms explode**. The financial services industry saw nearly triple the number of distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks during the first 3 months of 2012 compared to the same period in 2011, according to a report released April 11. The new data comes from security vendor Prolexic, which counts 10 of the world’s major banks as clients for its DDoS mitigation services. In its report, the company said DDoS attacks also rose in intensity, with increases in bandwidth and packet-per-second rates. The average attack bandwidth rose from 5.2G bits per second (bps) in the last 3 months of 2011 to 6.1G bps in the first quarter of 2012. However, the average attack length dropped from 34 hours to 28.5 hours, Prolexic said. “The reduction in attack campaign duration, combined with an increase in mitigated bytes and packets, indicates that attackers are using shorter, stronger bursts of traffic to conduct DDoS campaigns,” the company said. More than 70 percent of the malicious attack traffic came from China.

Source:



[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9226136/DDOS\\_attacks\\_on\\_financial\\_services\\_firms\\_explode](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9226136/DDOS_attacks_on_financial_services_firms_explode)

20. *April 11, Worthington Daily Globe* – (Minnesota) **Jackson woman faces embezzlement charge in U.S. district court.** A former banker charged with allegedly embezzling more than \$100,000 while employed as the retail operations manager at United Prairie Bank of Mankato, in Jackson, Minnesota, is scheduled to make her first appearance in federal court the week of April 16. Court documents state between January 2005 and August 2011, the former manager, with intent to defraud United Prairie Bank, willfully misapplied and embezzled the sum of approximately \$108,039. She allegedly took funds from customer accounts for her personal use, and used some of the money to pay down a loan balance for a family member. Because bank deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the case will be handled through the federal court system. The court will pursue forfeiture of any property, real or personal, which was derived from proceeds traceable to the embezzled funds. Source: <http://www.dglobe.com/event/article/id/56525/group/News/>
21. *April 11, Biloxi Sun Herald* – (Mississippi; Louisiana; Texas) **2 women indicted in armed bank robbery in Gulfport.** Court papers show a retired postal worker from Texas is accused of threatening to shoot a Gulfport, Mississippi bank teller in the face March 26 in what officials believe to be the last of a mother-daughter crime spree at four banks in three states, the Biloxi-Gulfport Sun Herald reported April 11. They were also being held on warrants from Texas and Louisiana. A state charge filed by Gulfport police alleged the mother wore a disguise when she robbed a Regions Bank bank at gunpoint with a demand note, and threatened to shoot a teller in the face if she didn't give her money. She allegedly left the bank with \$12,651 and fled in a getaway car driven by her daughter. The pair have been held since their arrests minutes after the holdup. The woman's alleged disguise appears to fit a pattern in other robberies. The women are suspected in similar holdups February 13 at an Iberia Bank in Kinder, Louisiana, February 29 at a Citizens National Bank in Henderson, Texas, and March 15 at a MidSouth Bank in Sulphur, Louisiana. Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/2012/04/11/3876702/2-women-indicted-in-armed-bank.html>
22. *April 11, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (New York) **Three mortgage loan officers plead guilty in Manhattan federal court to orchestrating \$9 million mortgage fraud scheme.** Three mortgage loan officers each pleaded guilty April 11 in New York City for their roles in a \$9 million mortgage fraud scheme, a U.S. attorney announced. According to the indictment, the men along with nine other individuals, engaged in an illegal scheme to defraud various lending institutions by using fictitious and fraudulent "straw identities" to apply for mortgage loans. Through the scheme, the defendants were able to obtain more than \$9 million in mortgage loans for the purchase of dozens of residential properties throughout the New York City metropolitan area and Long Island. Most of these loans quickly went into default. The men each acted as loan officers who processed the fraudulent mortgage applications. Source: <http://www.fbi.gov/newyork/press-releases/2012/three-mortgage-loan-officers->

[plead-guilty-in-manhattan-federal-court-to-orchestrating-9-million-mortgage-fraud-scheme](#)

For another story, see item [27](#)

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## **Transportation Sector**

23. *April 12, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Ride On bus fires in Montgomery prompt federal safety probe.** Navistar diesel vehicles purchased by Montgomery County's Ride On buses in Maryland had problems with electrical panels and parking brakes that caused fires that destroyed five of them since 2009. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said April 11 it was looking into the buses to "determine if a safety defect exists in these vehicles." The most recent fire happened in March and was still under investigation. Montgomery officials said they continue to operate the 45 remaining Navistar buses as "infrequently as possible" for the Ride On service, which provides 26 million passenger trips a year.  
Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/ride-on-bus-fires-in-montgomery-prompts-federal-safety-probe/2012/04/11/gIQAF2WgBT\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/ride-on-bus-fires-in-montgomery-prompts-federal-safety-probe/2012/04/11/gIQAF2WgBT_story.html)
24. *April 11, Palm Springs Deseret Sun* – (California) **Oregon man arrested at Palm Springs airport with handgun.** A Salem, Oregon man was arrested at Palm Springs International Airport in Palm Springs, California after Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers found a loaded gun in his briefcase April 10. The man carried a .380-caliber Beretta handgun and 12 rounds of ammunition, a TSA spokesman stated. He was being held at a correctional facility in lieu of bail. He was scheduled to appear in county superior court April 12.  
Source: <http://www.mydesert.com/article/20120411/NEWS0801/204110324/Oregon-man-arrested-Palm-Springs-airport-handgun?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage>
25. *April 11, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Man tries to board Greyhound bus with gun.** A man was arrested after trying to board a Greyhound bus with a gun in Chicago, April 11. Bus station personnel became suspicious when they saw the man leave the station with a black leather bag after it was announced that passengers would be undergoing a security check. When they checked outside, they found the black bag and an unloaded handgun in a trash can. The man told police he had traveled to Chicago from Lansing, Michigan, and was switching buses on his way to California.  
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-greyhound-passenger-arrested-for-having-gun-20120411,0,912349.story>
26. *April 10, Bloomberg News; Aspen Times* – (Colorado) **Aspen flights diverted over FAA equipment failure.** Several American Eagle flights headed to Aspen, Colorado, were diverted to other airports over the weekend of April 7 because of airport equipment failure. Investigators said the equipment that guides landing planes failed. The Federal Aviation Administration said it had problems after moving the equipment

and expected it to be fixed by April 13.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2012-04/D9U265TO2.htm>

For more stories, see items [18](#), [60](#), and [63](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

27. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Man convicted of mail, ID theft in Houston.** Prosecutors in Houston said April 11 that hundreds of people were scammed by a man who swiped mail and set up fake identities and a federal jury convicted a man of bank fraud, possession of stolen mail, and aggravated identity theft. Authorities said the Iranian national has been in custody since 2010 when investigators discovered stolen mail, fake credit cards, and cash in his Texas apartment. A dozen witnesses testified about stolen mail and bogus credit and bank accounts opened using their names. Investigators say about 500 people were affected by the scheme.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8617980>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

28. *April 12, Food Safety News* – (National) **Outbreak potentially linked to sushi expands to 116 cases.** A multistate outbreak of Salmonella Bareilly that previously sickened 100 expanded to include at least 116 victims across 20 states, according to new data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In this latest outbreak report, released April 11, CDC reported, “The investigation has not conclusively identified a food source,” however evidence suggests sushi may be the contaminated product. Cases are largely centered in states on the Eastern Seaboard and the Gulf of Mexico, but also extend to the Midwest. The number of sickened individuals in each state is as follows: Alabama (2), Arkansas (1), Connecticut (5), District of Columbia (2), Florida (1), Georgia (5), Illinois (10), Louisiana (2), Maryland (11), Massachusetts (8), Mississippi (1), Missouri (2), New Jersey (7), New York (24), North Carolina (2), Pennsylvania (5), Rhode Island (5), South Carolina (3), Texas (3), Virginia (5), and Wisconsin (12). Among those infected, 12 are reported to have been hospitalized. Illnesses related to the outbreak were first reported January 28, and current case counts are accurate as of March 31.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/more-victims-in-outbreak-potentially-linked-to-sushi/>

29. *April 12, Food Safety News* – (Maine) **E. coli tests spur recall of tenderized beef in Maine.** Town and Country Foods of Greene, Maine, is recalling about 2,057 pounds of ground and mechanically tenderized beef that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced April 11. The company’s own lab testing confirmed a positive result for E. coli O157:H7, according to the news release, but FSIS said the firm had already

distributed the beef before the test results were received. The potentially contaminated beef was produced between April 4 and 10 and shipped to wholesale and retail establishments in Maine.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/e-coli-tests-spur-recall-of-tenderized-beef-in-maine/>

30. *April 12, Food Safety News* – (California) **California company will keep seafood off market.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said a California seafood importer and processor agreed to shut down its operations while it corrects conditions in its processing facility, which is alleged to be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. The FDA said in a statement April 11 that Yamaya USA of Torrance, and its president agreed to terms of a consent decree April 5. Under the agreement, the firm must destroy all foods being processed or ready for shipment, and clean and sanitize the facility. It cannot resume marketing its seafood until lab results confirm no further *Listeria* contamination. The FDA said the firm must also hire a sanitation and food safety expert to develop and implement a *Listeria* monitoring program and a hazard analysis critical control point plan. It must hire an outside auditor to conduct inspections of the facility at least once every 3 months for 3 years and once every year for 2 years after that, for a total of 5 years of auditing inspections. In October, 2011, Yamaha USA recalled capelin roe, or masago, after tests by the FDA revealed the roe was contaminated with *Listeria*.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/california-company-will-keep-fish-off-market/>

31. *April 12, Farmers Weekly* – (International) **Toxic chemical dioxin found in German eggs.** Eggs from three farms in Germany were found to contain higher than permitted levels of the toxic chemical dioxin, the state's agriculture ministry confirmed the week of April 2. Test results from an organic farm in the North Rhine Westphalia region of Ostwestfalen-Lippe, first found levels of dioxin in eggs up to six times over the limit in April. Dioxins are a group of chemical commonly formed as by-products from chemical processes and can have adverse effects on humans if they are consumed at high levels over long periods of time. Consumers were warned to avoid eggs from the farm, after it was reported that 7,000 eggs had already leaked into the food chain. Since then, the ministry said dioxin has been found at two other farms in the region and sales of affected eggs have now been halted.

Source: <http://www.fwi.co.uk/Articles/12/04/2012/132382/Toxic-chemical-dioxin-found-in-German-eggs.htm>

32. *April 11, Associated Press* – (Oregon; National) **Study blames ocean CO2 for oyster declines.** Scientists are blaming slightly higher levels of carbon dioxide in Pacific Ocean waters linked to global warming for the failure of oyster larvae to survive in an Oregon hatchery, the Associated Press reported April 11. They say higher acidity of the water that comes with more carbon dioxide makes it harder for young oysters to form shells, dooming them in days, even if they are moved to more favorable environments. "A lot of studies talk about the year 2050 when ocean acidification becomes a problem," for sea life, said the lead author who is production manager at the Whiskey Creek Shellfish Hatchery on Netarts Bay. "It showed up five years ago for us," and

almost put the hatchery out of business. The study appeared April 10 in the online edition of the journal *Limnology and Oceanography*. “The predicted rise of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> in the next two to three decades may push oyster larval growth past the break-even point in terms of production,” a study co-author said in a statement. Hatcheries and oyster farms relying on natural reproduction started having trouble with larvae survival in 2005. At Whiskey Creek, which raises larvae from Pacific and kumamoto oysters that originally come from Japan, they began noticing a correlation between times when ocean upwelling was strong and larvae die-offs.

Source:

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gDd4B8VqDO1\\_0vXmPo-e1elna7Mg?docId=8374f8b570c94d589b99cf21fadb0446](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gDd4B8VqDO1_0vXmPo-e1elna7Mg?docId=8374f8b570c94d589b99cf21fadb0446)

33. *April 11, Occupational Health & Safety* – (Illinois) **Combustible dust explosion at pasta plant leads to \$231K penalty.** The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA ) cited Gilster-Mary Lee Corp. for six safety violations, including three willful, after two maintenance employees conducting welding operations sustained serious burns to their upper bodies as the result of an explosion within a dust collector at the company’s Steeleville, Illinois, pasta-manufacturing plant October 6, 2011. Proposed penalties total \$231,000, Occupational Health & Safety reported April 11. During the incident, the two maintenance workers were repairing a hole in the side of a metal trough containing a screw conveyor that was leaking granulated sugar within several feet of an operational dust collector. The collector exploded due to a spark from the welding operations. The three willful violations include failing to: eliminate dust deflagration and explosion hazards on indoor dust collectors and air material separators; contain dust during the bagging of powdered sugar; shut down ducts and conveyor systems during welding operations; and ensure that electrical equipment installed in areas exposed to combustible dust was approved and safe for those locations. Three serious violations include failing to: inspect areas where welding was to be performed; prohibit welding in the presence of explosive atmospheres; and ensure the safe use of welding processes in the presence of combustible dust. Prior to this inspection, the food manufacturer was inspected by OSHA 30 times since 2002, resulting in citations for 46 violations.

Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2012/04/11/combustible-dust-explosion-at-pasta-plant-leads-to-231k-penalty.aspx?admgarea=news>

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## **Water Sector**

34. *April 12, Glendora Patch* – (California) **Report: High number of leaks in city water system.** A city-commissioned report released April 10 found many leaks in Glendora, California’s water system compared to other cities of similar size. The research found 16 leaks occurred monthly in the city’s aging water system, far more than surrounding local cities. The study also detailed budget, staffing, and workload issues within the city’s water division. While the research praised the water division’s overall

performance, it outlined specific problem areas, including constant leaks in the city's 70-year-old water infrastructure. According to the study adviser, the majority of leaks were found in the main lines. City officials have said leaks have cost the city thousands of dollars annually to repair. In 2003, the city entered into a capital improvement program to address more than \$125 million worth of remaining water master plan improvements. The study also recommended the city consider an outside contractor to assist city staff in repairing leaks, especially in the event of a major disaster or multiple leaks.

Source: <http://glendora.patch.com/articles/report-high-number-of-leaks-in-city-water-system>

35. *April 11, WYFF 4 Greenville* – (South Carolina) **Raw sewage spill runs through neighborhoods.** Up to 95,000 gallons of raw sewage spilled into a Greenville, South Carolina creek April 11, according to Renewable Water Resources (ReWa). The sewage overflowed into Brushy Creek due to a mistake by a contractor who was performing maintenance on a sewer line, according to a ReWa official. He said the overflow was corrected within 30 minutes and waste was filtered out of the water within a few hours, but it may take several days for bacteria levels in the creek to return to normal. The department of health and environmental control will determine when the water is safe again. People were advised to stay out of the stretch of Brushy Creek between Grove Road and Augusta Road.

Source: <http://www.wyff4.com/news/local-news/greenville-news/Raw-Sewage-Spill-Runs-Through-Neighborhoods/-/9654794/10584000/-/lncksxz/-/index.html>

36. *April 11, Warren County Record* – (Missouri) **Marthasville imposes sewer moratorium.** Marthasville, Missouri officials imposed a 180-day moratorium on connections to its sewer system, a response made after the effluent from the city lagoon exceeded its operating limits, the Warren County Record reported April 11. The city received a letter of warning from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) March 12 notifying it that the monitoring period ended in January, and that the effluent limits, specifically ammonia limits, were reported at 4.97 milligrams per liter (mg/l), but its average monthly permit limitations are 2.8 mg/l. The letter noted the city was in violation of the Missouri Clean Water Law, and Clean Water Commission regulations. The city expected to receive two more warnings for high ammonia limits resulting from samples tested in February and March 2012. City officials said it was recommended by the DNR and the city attorney to impose the moratorium.

Source: [http://emissourian.com/news/warren\\_county\\_record/article\\_7e3532f4-83fa-11e1-9d80-001a4bcf887a.html](http://emissourian.com/news/warren_county_record/article_7e3532f4-83fa-11e1-9d80-001a4bcf887a.html)

37. *April 11, KIVI 6 Boise* – (Idaho) **Garden City mayor declares water main to be a public safety emergency.** The mayor of Garden City, Idaho, declared a state of emergency in the city, KIVI 6 Boise reported April 11. A water main failed April 1, causing some residents to be without water. The city hoped to wait until river flows lowered, but according to the Idaho Statesman, the main has become a public safety hazard and the city cannot wait any longer. The new main is targeted to be complete at the end of June and will cost the city around \$700,000.

Source: <http://www.kivitv.com/news/local/147031475.html>



38. *April 11, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Colorado) **Holcim (US), Inc. agrees to pay \$36,500 penalty for Clean Water Act violations in Florence, Colorado.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) entered into a Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement (CCCA) with Holcim (US), Inc. in response to alleged violations of the Clean Water Act at its limestone and silica quarry and Portland cement plant located in Florence in Fremont County, Colorado. Announced in an April 11 news release, EPA alleges Holcim had unauthorized ground water discharges at the facility, failed to comply with sampling requirements, failed to comply with inspection requirements, and failed to develop an adequate stormwater management plan for its operations, in violation of its permit and the Clean Water Act. As a result, Holcim agreed to pay a penalty of \$36,500.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/45c5a9ab288be83b852579dd005e1a8a?OpenDocument>

For more stories, see items [4](#), [5](#), and [63](#)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

39. *April 12, Associated Press* – (National) **Animal antibiotics: FDA asks drug companies to limit overuse amid health concerns.** April 11, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) called on drug companies to help limit the use of antibiotics in farm animals, a decades-old practice that scientists say contributed to a surge in dangerous, drug-resistant bacteria. Antibiotic drugs like penicillin are routinely mixed with animal feed and water to help livestock, pigs, and chickens put on weight and stay healthy in crowded feeding lots. Scientists warned such use leads to the growth of antibiotic-resistant germs that can be passed on to humans. Under the new FDA guidelines, the agency recommends antibiotics be used “judiciously,” or only when necessary to keep animals healthy. It also wants to require a veterinarian to prescribe the drugs. They can currently be purchased over-the-counter by farmers. The draft recommendations by the FDA are not binding, and the agency is asking drug manufacturers’ to voluntarily put the proposed limits in place. Drug companies would need to adjust the labeling of their antibiotics to remove so-called production uses of the drugs. Production uses include increased weight gain and accelerated growth, which helps farmers save money by reducing feed costs. The FDA hopes drugmakers will phase out language promoting non-medical uses within 3 years.

Source: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/04/11/animal-antibiotics-fda-livestock\\_n\\_1417655.html?ref=food&ir=Food](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/04/11/animal-antibiotics-fda-livestock_n_1417655.html?ref=food&ir=Food)

40. *April 12, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Kentucky; National) **Painkiller prescriptions grow nearly 200 percent since 1991.** Painkiller abuse in the United States has exploded along with skyrocketing prescriptions and sales, top national health officials told a crowd of hundreds at the National Rx Drug Abuse Summit April 11. Even well-meaning doctors and dentists are fueling the epidemic of prescription drug abuse by prescribing narcotics too often and for too long, officials said. The director of the

National Institute on Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health cited statistics showing prescriptions for opiate-based painkillers dispensed by retail pharmacies rose from 76 million in 1991 to 219 million in 2011. Kentucky is one of the hardest-hit states, with about 1,000 deaths a year attributed to prescription-drug overdoses — more deaths than in traffic accidents. The director said dentists and emergency medicine physicians were the chief prescribers of painkillers to patients 5 to 29 years old, and high prescribers should consider alternatives, particularly for this vulnerable group. She also said education on pain management is sorely lacking in medical schools, which offer an average of 7 hours, compared with 75 hours in U.S. veterinary schools. A principal deputy director at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said opioid overdose death rates have risen in lockstep with sales. In 2010, enough prescription painkillers were prescribed to medicate every American adult every day for a month.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20120411/NEWS01/304110095/Painkiller-prescriptions-grow-n>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

41. *April 11, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Two students arrested for exploding chemical bombs at Utah high school.** Police in Bountiful, Utah, arrested two teenagers, both high school students, for exploding chemical bombs in what authorities described as a prank. A Bountiful police sergeant said a plastic bottle filled with household chemicals and hydrochloric acid exploded in a stairwell at Bountiful High School, April 11. A second, similar bomb exploded in a nearby church parking lot. Police closed the school for 2 hours while searching for additional bombs.  
Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/news/nation/11843028-418/two-students-arrested-for-exploding-chemical-bombs-at-utah-high-school.html>
42. *April 11, CNN* – (Pennsylvania) **String of bomb threats reaches University of Pittsburgh chancellor.** An April 10 bomb threat at the home of the University of Pittsburgh's chancellor in Pittsburgh was followed by five other threats on university buildings early April 11, according to a school spokesman. A total of 55 buildings on the Pittsburgh campus have received dozens of threats since February 13. Some buildings have faced more than one threat. The Department of Justice, the FBI, and the University of Pittsburgh police are investigating.  
Source: [http://www.cnn.com/2012/04/11/us/pennsylvania-school-threats/index.html?hpt=us\\_c2](http://www.cnn.com/2012/04/11/us/pennsylvania-school-threats/index.html?hpt=us_c2)
43. *April 11, KNSD 7 San Diego* – (California) **UC Davis pepper spray.** The University of California (UC) released a report on the pepper spraying of student demonstrators by UC Davis police during November 2011, KNSD 7 San Diego reported April 11. The 200-page document concluded the incident “should and could have been prevented.” The report also said that the use of the pepper spray “does not appear to have been an objectively reasonable use of force.” The report is expected to shed light on the events that led campus police officers to coat protesters with pepper spray as 20 individuals sat

in a line. Two protesters were taken to the hospital. They were among 11 protesters treated for the effects of pepper spray. The task force planned to host a public meeting on the UC Davis campus to describe their findings and recommendations. The report can be found on the UC Davis Web site.

Source: <http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/UC-Davis-Pepper-Spray-Report-Going-Public-146971065.html>

44. *April 11, Cleveland Daily Banner* – (Tennessee) **Three LFMS students given court probation.** Three students at Lake Forest Middle School in Cleveland, Tennessee pleaded guilty to reckless endangerment charges after manufacturing an explosive device and setting it off in their school's cafeteria, the Cleveland Daily Banner reported April 11. They were placed on probation and given community service. The students manufactured the chemical device that exploded at the school the week of April 2. School resource officers began an investigation at the school after the soft drink bottle device exploded inside a trash can, causing a "loud boom and smoke."

Source: [http://www.clevelandbanner.com/view/full\\_story/18199479/article-Three-LFMS-students-given-court-probation?instance=homethirdleft](http://www.clevelandbanner.com/view/full_story/18199479/article-Three-LFMS-students-given-court-probation?instance=homethirdleft)

45. *April 11, Glendora Patch* – (California) **Rain damage shuts down phone lines on Citrus campus.** A leak caused by a morning rainstorm damaged telephone wires on the Citrus College campus in Glendora, California, April 11. Phones were expected to remain inoperable throughout the day, according to a Citrus College representative. All classes were in session and offices were open. The college's e-mail system, Web site, and Blackboard instructional course management system were operating. The extent of the damage was being assessed, the Citrus College director of communications said. "The college estimates that the phone system will be inoperable for the rest of [April 11] and, possibly, longer," she said.

Source: <http://glendora.patch.com/articles/rain-damages-phone-lines-on-citrus-campus>

46. *April 10, Washington Post* – (National) **Commerce Department says cyber attack hasn't stopped grants.** The Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration (EDA), which gives out grants to distressed communities, unplugged its network once a virus was discovered, and employees are now back online under a new operating system built from scratch, the Washington Post reported April 10. While business has slowed, Commerce officials stated, the EDA awarded \$36.2 million in grants during the disruption. The virus's source was not yet known. Commerce officials also said they were working aggressively to address longstanding warnings from the agency's inspector general and the Government Accountability Office that its computer networks are vulnerable to cyber attacks.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/post/commerce-department-says-cyber-attack-hasnt-stopped-grants/2012/04/10/gIAkYM87S\\_blog.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/post/commerce-department-says-cyber-attack-hasnt-stopped-grants/2012/04/10/gIAkYM87S_blog.html)

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## Emergency Services Sector

47. *April 12, Batavia Daily News* – (New York) **Orleans will tackle \$5 million radio upgrade.** The Batavia Daily News reported April 12 that Orleans County, New York legislators are forging ahead with a \$5 million emergency radio system upgrade. The project will include new telecommunications towers on the east and west ends of the county. Police officers, firefighters, and other first responders will have about 400 new radios, and the dispatch and telecommunications system will be overhauled. About 1,100 other radios will be fine-tuned as part of the project. County officials have worked on the upgrade project since 2004. Police officers often are unable to communicate with each other or with dispatch because of the radios, putting officers in jeopardy, the Holley police chief said. The new system should be in place by the end of 2012 or in early 2013, said the legislature chairman.  
Source: [http://thedailynewsonline.com/news/article\\_a002c7d6-8452-11e1-ad1f-0019bb2963f4.html](http://thedailynewsonline.com/news/article_a002c7d6-8452-11e1-ad1f-0019bb2963f4.html)

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## Information Technology Sector

48. *April 12, Help Net Security* – (International) **Trojanized Angry Birds offered for download.** The extreme popularity of Rovio's Angry Birds mobile game has made it and its special editions ideal for luring unsuspecting users into downloading malware. A trojanized version of the latest addition — Angry Birds Space — has recently been spotted by Sophos researchers being offered on a number of unofficial Android app stores. Users who download it may not even realize that they have downloaded a malicious app, as the packet appears to be a fully-functional version of the game, and the name and the icon of the app correspond with the ones used by the legitimate app. However, the bundled GingerBreak exploit works in the background to gain root access to the device and to use it to download and install additional malware from a remote Web site. The compromised device is then at the mercy of the criminals behind the malware and is now effectively part of a botnet. The criminals can force the device to download any additional packet they want or make the browser go to any Web page they choose.  
Source: [http://www.net-security.org/malware\\_news.php?id=2066&utm](http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2066&utm)
49. *April 12, H Security* – (International) **Python updates for hash collision DoS problems.** The Python developers released updates for Python 2.7 and 3.2 with changes that address several security issues. These include two fixes for hash collision problems which were brought into the spotlight at the Chaos Communications Congress (28C3) in December 2011. The flaw allows attackers to create key/value data crafted so the hashes for the keys are more likely to collide. This forces the system to spend much more time when creating key/value hash tables and can be used in a denial-of-service (DoS) attack. The issue is avoided by using a randomized hash function,

which has now been implemented in the four versions of currently supported Python. One fix corrects Python's own hashing, while another fix corrects the same issue in the C-based Expat XML parsing library embedded in Python. An unrelated DoS issue in the Simple XML-RPC Server with Python, where excessive CPU could be consumed if requests were begun but the connection closed before the request body was completely sent, was also fixed. Finally, a countermeasure against the CBC IV attacks on SSL 3.0 and TLS 1.0 which was incorporated into OpenSSL was turned back on in Python, after it was found the coders inadvertently disabled the countermeasure when setting options.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Python-updates-for-hash-collision-DoS-problems-1519585.html>

50. *April 12, Help Net Security* – (International) **0-day in Backtrack Linux found, patched.** A zero-day vulnerability affecting the last version of Backtrack Linux was spotted by a student during an Ethical Hacking class organized by the InfoSec Institute. The discovery was made public on InfoSec's Web site and detailed by the student himself, who said the Wireless Interface Connection Daemon (WICD) Backtrack components has several design flaws that can be misused to execute a privilege escalation exploit. "Improper sanitization of the inputs in the WICD's DBUS interfaces allows an attacker to (semi)arbitrarily write configuration options in WICD's 'wireless-settings.conf' file, including but not limited to defining scripts (executables actually) to execute upon various internal events (for instance upon connecting to a wireless network)," he explained. "These scripts execute as the root user, this leads to arbitrary code/command execution by an attacker with access to the WICD DBUS interface as the root user." The student and the InfoSec team immediately started on working on a proof-of-concept exploit and the patch for the vulnerability, all of which is provided on the group's site. Backtrack is a Linux distribution popular with penetration testers all over the world because it comes preloaded with hundreds of useful security tools. The vulnerability affects the latest version — Backtrack 5 R2. Users can use the patch offered by the group or update WICD to the new version (1.7.2) which fixes the vulnerability.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=12740&utm>

51. *April 12, H Security* – (International) **Security vulnerability in NVIDIA's proprietary Linux drivers fixed.** A new version of NVIDIA's proprietary UNIX graphics drivers for Linux, Solaris, and FreeBSD fixes a security vulnerability (CVE-2012-0946) that allowed attackers to read and write arbitrary system memory in order to, for example, obtain root privileges. To take advantage of the vulnerability, an attacker must have access permission for some device files — which, for systems with these drivers, is typically the case for users who can launch a graphical interface as 3D acceleration and some other features cannot be used otherwise. Version 295.40 of the driver corrects this problem. For older drivers whose version numbers start with 195, 256 to 285, or 290 to 295, NVIDIA made patches available that change the vulnerable part of the kernel module belonging to the driver. Users who update the driver with this patch and use the CUDA debugger will also need to update the CUDA library before the debugger can work again. NVIDIA categorized the security hole as "high risk" and recommends users update to the new version if they use the drivers with GeForce 8,

G80 Quadro graphics cards, or newer models from those lines. The company has not confirmed whether the problem also exists for older graphics card models or legacy drivers (such as the 173 line).

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Security-vulnerability-in-NVIDIA-s-proprietary-Linux-drivers-fixed-1520095.html>

52. *April 10, Help Net Security* – (International) **Fake account verification email phishes for Google credentials.** Google users are being targeted with e-mails purportedly coming from the Google Team confirming a bogus recovery e-mail update. Hosted on a compromised Web site, the destination is a page made to look like Gmail's login page, set up to harvest the users' login credentials for their Gmail, and consequently, for all their other Google accounts.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=12725>

For more stories, see items [14](#), [19](#), and [46](#)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto:sos@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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## Communications Sector

53. *April 11, KTVM 6 Butte* – (Montana) **Update on KTVM technical issues.** KTVM 6 Butte, Montana, updated its viewers April 11 on some of the technical problems the station had been experiencing with its on-air signal. Several major power outages took the Green Mountain transmitters off the air. The transmitter was damaged, and the station has been working to repair it over the last few weeks. It has now been repaired and KTVM was back up to normal operations as of April 11.

Source: <http://www.nbcmontana.com/news/30876718/detail.html>

54. *April 11, Portland Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Phone service out for almost 1,000 in Washington County.** A telephone outage April 11 left 990 phone lines in Washington County, Oregon, without service. The carrier, Frontier Communications, was working to restore service. The cause of the outage was equipment failure, said a spokesman for the Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency. He said those without service who needed to call 9-1-1 were advised to use a wireless phone. As of the afternoon of April 11, there was no word on what time service would be restored.

Source:

[http://www.oregonlive.com/aloha/index.ssf/2012/04/phone\\_service\\_out\\_for\\_almost\\_1.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/aloha/index.ssf/2012/04/phone_service_out_for_almost_1.html)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

55. *April 12, WHNS 21 Greenville* – (South Carolina) **Massive Anderson blaze ruled accidental.** Dozens of people were displaced April 11 when a massive fire destroyed an Anderson, South Carolina apartment building. About 50 firefighters were called to the building and were able to get the fire under control in about 10 minutes, according to the Anderson County fire chief. He said firefighters remained at the scene to monitor hot spots. The fire chief said they ruled it an undetermined, accidental fire. One firefighter was taken to a local hospital after falling, and a bystander was treated for breathing problems.  
Source: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/17386774/massive-fire-destroys-anderson-apartment-building>
56. *April 12, Connecticut Post* – (Connecticut) **Chemical leak forces evacuation.** A chloride-based chemical was released from a Fairfield, Connecticut metals processing company April 12, forcing an evacuation and closing several roads. A B.J.s Warehouse store, several surrounding businesses, and homes were evacuated. Black Rock Turnpike and Commerce Drive were closed to traffic and pedestrians. However, less than an hour later the fumes were not considered toxic because of the small amounts released. The fumes were released from 5NPlus, a custom manufacturer of metals. An assistant fire chief identified the chemical as gallium trichloride.  
Source: <http://www.ctpost.com/policereports/article/Chemical-leak-forces-evacuation-3477382.php>
57. *April 11, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Officials dousing English Mountain fire with water from helicopter.** A fire atop English Mountain, in Sevierville, Tennessee, which started April 10 and destroyed four dozen condominiums was being fought with a helicopter ferrying loads of water from local ponds and lakes. As of April 11, 48 condos reduced to ashes in Sevier County continued to smolder due to hot embers under the debris. Firefighters also remained on scene in the event anticipated would kick up remaining embers and turn them into flames. The fire appeared to be spreading northeast into Cocke County, a public information officer for the Sevierville Police Department said, but no homes were in imminent danger.  
Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2012/apr/11/officials-dousing-english-mountain-fire-with/>
58. *April 11, WRWR 38 Warner Robins* – (Georgia) **44 guns stolen from Sports Center in Perry.** Police in Perry, Georgia, reported more than 40 guns were stolen from a sporting goods store April 9. Approximately 44 weapons, 36 of them pistols, were stolen from the Sports Center store by what appeared to be a team of criminals. The thieves broke through the store windows then used a heavy instrument to break through the bulletproof casing that housed the weapons.  
Source: <http://warnerrobinspatriot.com/bookmark/18190955-44-guns-stolen-from-Sports-Center-in-Perry#ixzz1rpnt4>
59. *April 11, WAFF 48 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **Arab Police make church building arson arrest.** Arab, Alabama police made an arrest in an Alabama church fire case, WAFF 48

Huntsville reported April 11. Investigators said a man was accused of breaking into the youth ministry building of the Victory Cornerstone Church, vandalizing it and then setting it on fire. The suspect was charged with second degree arson, third degree burglary, and first degree criminal mischief.

Source: <http://www.wsfa.com/story/17384982/arab-police-make-church-building-arson-arrest>

For more stories, see items [18](#), [60](#), and [63](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

60. *April 12, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Fast-moving brush fire destroys 100 acres near Meadowlands sports complex.** Treacherous ground and fast-moving flames kept crews from directly fighting a large grass fire near the Izod Center, a multi-purpose arena in East Rutherford, New Jersey, April 11. At times, the fire jumped 20 feet into the air and spread out a quarter-mile near Paterson Plank Road in Carlstadt and the western spur of the New Jersey Turnpike. At one point, state officials closed the western spur of the Turnpike for 45 minutes amid concerns that flames would endanger motorists. The fire was one of more than 165 fires reported across the Garden State in the past 11 days, burning nearly 2,000 acres of land, said the acting chief of the New Jersey Forest Fire Service.

Source: [http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2012/04/fast-moving-brush-fire-destroy.html#incart\\_hbx](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2012/04/fast-moving-brush-fire-destroy.html#incart_hbx)

61. *April 11, Gainesville Sun* – (Florida; Georgia) **Update on the County Line Fire - exceeds 25,000 acres, more smoke in forecast.** The County Line fire, primarily in the northeast corner of the Osceola National Forest in Florida, ignited the week of April 2 and spread through more than 30,000 acres of pine, swamp, brush, and palmetto that has been parched by months of drought. Crews were battling the fire April 11, which spanned Columbia and Baker counties and was responsible for smoke drifting as far south as Gainesville. Residents from Georgia through North Florida from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico are inhaling the caustic smoke — a potential danger to people with respiratory ailments.

Source:

<http://www.gainesville.com/article/20120411/ARTICLES/120419931/1002/news?Title=Fire-consumes-30-000-acres-blankets-area-with-smoke->

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## **Dams Sector**

62. *April 11, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Inspections of lower Mississippi River levees deactivated.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers halted emergency inspections of levees along the lower Mississippi River April 11, as water levels at New Orleans dropped below 11 feet, the trigger for the first phase of the agency's flood

fighting program. The decision also means that permitted construction work near levees and floodwalls along or near the river would resume. The Corps activated the phase 1 flood fight March 27, when the river rose above 11 feet in New Orleans.

Source:

[http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/04/inspections\\_of\\_lower\\_mississip.html](http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/04/inspections_of_lower_mississip.html)

63. *April 11, Delaware First Media* – (Delaware) **Rising seas to cut Delaware land mass by 10 percent, report says.** A draft of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Coastal Programs vulnerability study was released to the sea level rise committee, Delaware First Media reported April 11. The study claims 10 percent or more of Delaware's land mass could be submerged by rising ocean waters by the end of the century. In addition, more than 60 percent of dams, dikes, and levees could be inundated; sections of railroad flooded out; some roads, and bridges made impassable; and up to a fifth of wastewater treatment plants knocked out as an anticipated 1-meter rise in sea level spreads across the low-lying state. Dams, railroad lines, heavy industrial areas, tidal wetlands, and the Port of Wilmington are among the highest areas of concern, while residences are of moderate concern, and factories and farmland are rated as areas of low concern. In Delaware, the sea level is rising twice as fast as the global rate because movement in the earth's crust means the state's land is sinking at the same time. Tide gauges at Lewes show waters rising by 0.13 inch a year, or 13 inches over 100 years. The new report bases its vulnerability assessment on three scenarios: that seas will rise by 0.5 meter, 1 meter, or 1.5 meters by 2100. The study deals only with vulnerability to sea-level rise; the response to the problem is due in a later study on how the state might adapt to the rising waters. Officials hope to publish initial recommendations on adaptation this fall while the report is expected to be released to the public during summer 2012.

Source: <http://www.delawarefirst.org/25303-rising-seas-cut-delaware-land-ten-percent>

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